

# U.S. Department of Transportation

# news:

Office of Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20590



FOR RELEASE FRIDAY  
September 9, 1977

Contact: Joseph Marshall  
Phone: (202) 426-4043  
UMTA 77-49

The abandoned historic Louisville and Nashville railroad Union Station in Louisville, Kentucky will be acquired and renovated for public use by the Transit Authority of Louisville and Jefferson County under a Federal grant announced today by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams.

The \$8,710,352 grant for transit improvements was made by the Department's Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA). The grant also includes funding for the construction of a new bus maintenance facility on the 15.97 acre site, purchase of office furnishings and shop equipment.

UMTA Administrator Richard S. Page commended local officials on "an ambitious transit improvement program." He noted the substantial growth in ridership over the past four years and expressed confidence in "continued community support of public transportation in the Louisville metropolitan area."

Ridership on the system in 1972 was only about 10 million people. After formation of the public authority, acquisition of the private carrier with the aid of an UMTA grant, and institution of service improvements in 1974, patronage increased to more than 14 million people in 1976.

The current operational fleet is composed of 234 coaches. Planning studies show the need for an expanded fleet of 343

-more-

buses by 1980.

The new facility being built on the Union Station site will accommodate 213 buses, provide sufficient space to perform light maintenance and servicing functions and house the general transportation offices. The refurbished depot, with 26,000 square feet of floor space will be used as the administrative offices. The existing facility will continue to house 130 buses and will function as a heavy duty maintenance facility.

A local source for additional information is Mr. A.K. Meinze, General Manager, Transit Authority of Louisville and Jefferson County, 302 Speed Building, 333 Guthrie Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, (502) 587-3640. (KY-03-0012).

###

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION  
ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D.C. 20590

Official Business

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION  
ADMINISTRATION  
DOT 511

FIRST CLASS

